1 2	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California	
3	PAUL C. AMENT Supervising Deputy Attorney General E. A. JONES III, State Bar No. 71375	
4	Deputy Attorney General ELAINE GYURKO	
5 6	Senior Legal Analyst California Department of Justice 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
7	Los Angeles, California 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-4944 Facsimile: (213) 897-9395	
8	Attorneys for Complainant	
10	BEFORE THE RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD	
11	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 1H 2007 479
13	CHARLES EDWARD PARTRIDGE	ACCUSATION
14 15	15023 Mystic Street Whittier, California 90604	
16	Respiratory Care Practitioner License No. 4301	
17	Respondent.	
18		
19	Complainant alleges: PARTIES	
20	1. Stephanie Nunez (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her	
21	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Respiratory Care Board of California Department	
22	of Consumer Affairs (Board).	
23	2. On or about June 14, 1985, the Board issued Respiratory Care Practitioner	
24	License Number 4301 to Charles Edward Partridge (Respondent). This license was in full force	
25	and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on July 31, 2010,	
26	unless renewed.	
27	//	
28		

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 3710 of the Code states: "The Respiratory Care Board of California, hereafter referred to as the board, shall enforce and administer this chapter [Chapter 8.3, the Respiratory Care Practice Act]."
- 5. Section 3718 of the Code states: "The board shall issue, deny, suspend, and revoke licenses to practice respiratory care as provided in this chapter."
  - 6. Section 3750 of the Code states:

"The board may order the denial, suspension or revocation of, or the imposition of probationary conditions upon, a license issued under this chapter, for any of the following causes:

٠. . .

"(d) Conviction of a crime that substantially relates to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a respiratory care practitioner. The record of conviction or a certified copy thereof shall be conclusive evidence of the conviction.

"

"(j) The commission of any fraudulent, dishonest, or corrupt act which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a respiratory care practitioner.

" ;

7. Section 3752 of the Code states:

"A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere made to a charge of any offense which substantially relates to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a respiratory care practitioner is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this article. The board shall order the license suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a license, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of

conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw his or her plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment."

8. California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1399.370, states:

"For the purposes of denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, a crime or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a respiratory care practitioner, if it evidences present or potential unfitness of a licensee to perform the functions authorized by his or her license or in a manner inconsistent with the public health, safety, or welfare. Such crimes or acts shall include but not be limited to those involving the following:

"

"(b) Conviction of a crime involving fiscal dishonesty theft, or larceny.

"

#### COST RECOVERY

9. Section 3753.5, subdivision (a) of the Code states:

"In any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the board, the board or the administrative law judge may direct any practitioner or applicant found to have committed a violation or violations of law to pay to the board a sum not to exceed the costs of the investigation and prosecution of the case."

10. Section 3753.7 of the Code states:

"For purposes of the Respiratory Care Practice Act, costs of prosecution shall include attorney general or other prosecuting attorney fees, expert witness fees, and other administrative, filing, and service fees."

11. Section 3753.1, subdivision (a) of the Code states:

"An administrative disciplinary decision imposing terms of probation may include, among other things, a requirement that the licensee-probationer pay the monetary

costs associated with monitoring the probation."

# 

# 

# 

#### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Conviction of a Crime)

12. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 3750, subdivision (d), and 3752 of the Code, and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 1399.370, subdivision (b), in that he was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a respiratory care practitioner. The circumstances are as follows:

### June 6, 2008 Conviction

- A. On or about February 28, 2007, an Irwindale Police Officer responded to a report regarding a restraining order violation. The victim, who was Respondent's exwife, informed the officer that Respondent failed to comply with the restraining order issued on November 3, 2005, by making about 19 telephone calls to her.
- B. On or about May 21, 2007, in Los Angeles Superior Court Complaint No. 7JB04260, Respondent was charged with disobeying a domestic relations court order on or between February 5, 2007, and February 27, 2007, in violation of Penal Code section 273.6, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (Count 1), disobeying a domestic relations court order on or about March 2, 2007, in violation of Penal Code section 273.6, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (Count 2), and disobeying a domestic relations court order on or between April 16, 2007 and April 17, 2007, in violation of Penal Code section 273.6, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (Count 3). On or about August 22, 2007, a First Amended Misdemeanor Complaint for Arrest Warrant was filed in Case No. 7JB04260 to correct Respondent's name.
- C. On or about June 6, 2008, Respondent was convicted upon his plea of nolo contendere to disobeying a domestic relations court order on or between February 5, 2007, and February 27, 2007 (Count 1). He was placed on probation for three years on terms and conditions including: serve 2 days in county jail (with credit for 2 days), pay fines and assessments of \$520.00, contribute 30 days of community labor, complete a 52

week domestic violence program, not to own, use or possess any dangerous or deadly weapon for 10 years after probation, and comply with restraining orders. Counts 2 and 3 of the complaint were dismissed.

D. On or about September 24, 2008, Respondent failed to appear in court with proof of enrollment in the domestic violence class. The court ordered his probation revoked and ordered a bench warrant issued for his arrest.

#### April 4, 2008 Conviction

- E. The Whittier Police Department investigated the theft of a trailer from the parking lot of a Whittier School District facility which occurred between August 4 and 6, 2007. On or about August 19, 2007, Respondent was arrested for theft of the trailer.
- F. On or about September 28, 2007, in Los Angeles County Superior Court Complaint No. 7WW05349, Respondent was charged with grand theft auto, in violation of Penal Code section 487, subdivision (d)(1), a misdemeanor.
- G. On or about April 4, 2008, Respondent was convicted upon his plea of nolo contendere to grand theft auto. He was placed on probation for three years on a number of terms and conditions, including: serve 30 days in county jail (with credit for 3 days), pay fines and fees in the amount of \$211.00, and obey all laws.

## August 8, 2006 Conviction

- H. On or about October 17, 2005, a Whittier Police Officer responded to a report that Respondent made about ten telephone calls within five minutes to his wife, with whom he was in the process of divorce proceedings, using obscene language and making threats against her.
- I. On or about November 3, 2005, a restraining order was issued against Respondent pursuant to Family Code Section 6200, the Domestic Violence Prevention Act.
- J. On or about February 8, 2006, in Los Angeles County Superior Court Complaint No. 6WW00658, Respondent was charged with making annoying telephone calls, using obscene language and making threats, in violation of Penal Code section

653m, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (Count 1).

K. On or about March 14, 2006, Respondent failed to appear in court for arraignment and a bench warrant was issued for his arrest. Also on this date, a Whittier Police officer was dispatched to the premises of a Junior High School softball game, where Respondent was found to be in violation of a restraining order filed by his ex-wife. The police officer also determined that Respondent had an outstanding bench warrant. The officer arrested Respondent for contempt of court and advised him of the outstanding arrest warrant.

- L. On or about April 6, 2006, in Los Angeles County Superior Court Complaint No. 6WW01288, Respondent was charged with contempt of court: disobeying a court order, in violation of Penal Code section 166, subdivision (a)(4).
- M. On or about August 8, 2006, the court ordered the complaint amended in Case No. 6WW00658 to add the charges of contempt of court: disobeying a court order, in violation of Penal Code section 166, subdivision (a)(4), a misdemeanor (Count 2), and disturbing the peace, in violation of Penal Code section 415, an infraction (Count 3). Respondent was convicted pursuant to his plea of nolo contendere to contempt of court: disobeying a court order, and disturbing the peace (Counts 2 and 3). As Count 2, the court consolidated Case No. 6WW01288 into Case No. 6WW00658. As to Count 2, Respondent was placed on probation for one year on a number of terms and conditions, including perform 144 hours of community service, pay fees and fines of \$240.00, not to harass, molest or annoy the victim, and to obey all laws. As to Count 3, the court ordered Respondent to pay a \$50.00 fine, which was suspended. Count 1 of the complaint was dismissed.
- N. Respondent failed to complete community service as ordered, and on April 4, 2008, the court found that Respondent was in violation of probation. His probation was revoked and terminated. Respondent was ordered to serve 3 days in county jail (with credit for 3 days).

//

#### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Commission of a Fraudulent, Dishonest or Corrupt Act)

- 13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 3750, subdivision (j), of the Code, in that he committed fraudulent, dishonest or corrupt acts substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a respiratory care practitioner. The circumstances are as follows:
  - A. The facts and circumstances set forth in above Paragraph 12, subparagraphs E through G, of this Accusation are incorporated herein by reference.
  - B. On Respondent's respiratory care practitioner license renewal application, he answered "No" to the question regarding whether since he last renewed his license, he had been convicted of, diverted for, or pled guilty or nolo contendere/no contest to any violation of any law. On or about July 7, 2008, Respondent signed the license renewal application under penalty of perjury declaring that the information on the application was true and correct. He thereafter submitted the license renewal application to the Board. As Respondent was well aware at the time he signed this license renewal application, his answer was false by virtue of his convictions as set forth in Paragraph 12 above.

17 //

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

18 //

19 //

20 //

21 //

22 | /

//

//

//

23

24 //

25 //

26

27 //

28

# 1 **PRAYER** 2 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein 3 alleged, and that following the hearing, the Respiratory Care Board issue a decision: 4 1. Revoking or suspending Respiratory Care Practitioner License Number 5 4301 issued to Charles Edward Partridge; 6 2. Ordering Charles Edward Partridge to pay the Respiratory Care Board the 7 costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and if placed on probation, the costs of 8 probation monitoring; and 9 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 10 DATED: December 16, 2008 11 12 Original signed by Liane Zimmerman for: 13 STEPHANIE NUNEZ **Executive Officer** 14 Respiratory Care Board of California Department of Consumer Affairs 15 State of California Complainant 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28